**DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE SYLLABUS – 2017\_2018



**Course Title: AVID – 10th Grade**

**Instructor:** Mr. Eric Perry

**Instructors Available Hours:** 4th, 8th periods, after school (until 4pm)

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**Phone:** 720-423-7094

**Course Description**

Major Concepts/Content: Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is an

academic elective course that prepares students for college readiness and success, and

it is scheduled during the regular school day as a year-long course. Each week, students

receive instruction utilizing a rigorous college preparatory curriculum provided by AVID

Center, tutor-facilitated study groups, motivational activities and academic success

skills. In AVID, students participate in activities that incorporate strategies focused on

writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading to support their academic

growth.

During the tenth grade AVID Elective course, students will refine the AVID strategies to

meet their independent needs and learning styles. Students will continue to refine and

adjust their academic learning plans and goals, increasing awareness of their actions and

behaviors. As students, increase the rigorous course load and school/community

involvement, they will refine their time management and study skills accordingly.

Students will expand their writing portfolio to include: analyzing prompts, supporting

arguments and claims, character analysis and detailed reflections. Students will also

analyze various documents, in order to participate in collaborative discussions and

develop leadership skills in those settings. Students will expand their vocabulary use,

continuing to prepare for college entrance exams and preparation. Text analysis will

focus on specific strategies to understand complex texts. Lastly, students will narrow

down their college and careers of interest, based on personal interests and goals.

**Required Supplies (7)**

1. (1) 2”– 3” 3-ring binder
2. (1) pack of subject Tabs or dividers (at least 7 tabs)
3. (1) folder with pockets
4. (1) package of markers (various colors)
5. (1) pack of lined notebook paper (at least 100 pages – college rule)
6. (1) Composition Book
7. Each student is required to buy ONLY ONE of the following:
   1. (1) box of highlighters (minimum of 4) – yellow or various colors
   2. (1) bottle of hand sanitizer (GermX etc.,)

**Classroom Expectations**

1. **Respect:**

**All People, class materials, and School Policies.** Anything less will not be tolerated.

**Please note**: ANY documented violation of school rules, policies etc. to include fighting, truancy, disrespect towards other students or faculty member will result in loss of points in this AVID class (ranging from 10-25 points; based on severity)

1. **Responsibility:**

You are responsible for your own actions. ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS!

1. **Readiness:**

Be in your (assigned) seat and ready to begin class when the bell rings with your materials out; then read and complete (if applicable) the daily ‘Do Now’.

Class participation points will be deducted for each tardy and or unexcused absence.

1. **Participation:**

All students must participate in class when instructed.

1. **Electronic Devices:**

**ALL** electronic devices must be turned off and OUT OF SIGHT upon entering the classroom. We see it, we hear it, we take it. See Electronics Policy (covered during 1st week of class).

1. **Food or Drink:**

**No food or drink (per DPS/TJ Policy) in classrooms. Water is fine. Any food will be discarded in the trash.** Please respect the classroom environment by keeping it clean and focusing on learning at all times!

1. **Attendance**:

Come to class every day, on time and ready to participate. Once the tardy bell rings all TJ classroom doors are closed and locked. You are not allowed in the classroom until you go to office to get a ‘tardy’ pass.

**Five unexcused absences per semester will result in lowering your grade one-letter grade. Ten unexcused absences will result in a failing grade of ‘F’ for the course.**

1. **Grading:**

Grades will be based on the student’s ability to:

1. Participate in class
2. Complete and turn in on time, ALL assignments etc.,
3. Attend ALL classes (non-attendance to other classes will hurt your grade in AVID)
4. Utilize Office Hours, Tutoring sessions, and other resources to improve grades.

Student progress reports are available at the conclusion of each 6-week grading period.

AVID students will be tracking their grades on a weekly basis; therefore, there should be no surprises on each grade in each of their classes.

1. **Make up work**:
2. Excused absences - if a student has an **excused absence** they will have 1 additional day for every day absent to complete the work they missed.
3. Unexcused absences - If a student is absent unexcused, students will not have a chance to make up these points (No exceptions)
4. **Late Work**:
5. All late work must be submitted for grading within the same 6-week grading period as assigned.
6. 10% will be deducted from the total possible points for each day beyond the expected due date.
   1. Once the student has not turned in the assignment beyond one week from the due date, the max they can earn is 50%; in college (and in the real world), late work is not accepted!
7. **College Visits:**

AVID students will go on at least one college visit, and/or attend a college fair. Students agree to be a model AVID and TJ student at all events at all times.

**AVID Non-negotiable items. All 10th grade AVID students MUST:**

* Use an AVID Binder
* Use a TJ/AVID Planner
* Complete weekly Grade Tracking Sheets (and obtain parental signatures (if applicable))
* Participate in AVID Tutorial sessions
* Make efficient use of In-class Study Hall days (min. one day/2 weeks)
* Participate in Team Building and Leadership (community-based) activities
* Attend all AVID sponsored College/Career Readiness & Guest Speakers
* Complete all AVID directed projects
* Be on track to graduate in 4 years (unless IEP is in place)
* Maintain a GPA of 2.5 or higher or in progression.

**Failure to complete AVID non-negotiable items will result in student being placed on AVID Academic probation and/or possible removal from the AVID program**.

**Course Description Agreement - 9th Grade AVID Elective Class**

Please sign and date below and return to me by **Friday, September 1, 2017**

By signing below, I agree to the expectations and standards set by Thomas Jefferson High School and the AVID Center.

Student Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Contact Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_